

Old Time Logging Day at Jackson County ATC



KENTUCKY
TECH *nically Speaking*

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Pictured left: Student Richard Pitman watches as this tree is cut on the portable saw mill.
Right: Sam Banks brings out timber using a mule



Jackson County ATC students took a trip back in time recently thanks to an idea from wood manufacturing technology instructor Mark Taylor. Taylor was looking for a way to get lumber for class use as well as something for a teaching aid. That's when the idea of an old time logging day came to him.

"The first need was trees and that was met right outside the ATC doors," said Taylor. Thanks to permission from school superintendent Ralph Hoskins, timber on school property was used. "This proved to be convenient and cost effective," said Taylor.

The next order of business was to call on help from the community to fulfill other requirements to make the project a success. Mr. Felix Taylor of Annville, who operates a local custom sawing operation for lumber products, volunteered to bring his portable sawmill to the ATC. Mr. Sam Banks offered his assistance with mules that were used to drag out the cut trees. HOSA and VICA students set up stands to sell refreshments.

"This was a great community project and we hope to make it an annual event," said Taylor. The logging day was held November 8, 2002 and had between 600 – 700 persons in attendance.

The project served as a living classroom for economics, math, and history as ATC and high school students were able to participate directly in everything from harvesting the trees to stacking the lumber. Mr. Taylor hopes this will create interest in his class, which has already doubled in size over the last year. He believes this will also add to an already high community interest in the school.

"I'd like to thank everyone involved for giving us the opportunity to make this day a success," says Taylor. "We plan to use the lumber for a new storage building at the school and various other school projects."